



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

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Division of Public Health

February 13, 2020

Memorandum

TO: Registered Environmental Health Specialists, Program Supervisors, and Managers

FROM: Alice Isley, Program Manager
Pools, Tattoos, and State Institutions

SUBJECT: Guidance regarding pool night lighting documentation.

DISCUSSION AND RATIONALE:

This memo provides guidance for documentation and inspection frequency for night lighting at pools.

RESPONSE/INTERPRETATION:

Nighttime inspections are required to determine lighting for pools before they can be allowed to operate at night. When the Pool Night Lighting Documentation Form is completed, the night visit should be completed every third year. When no additional documentation is provided, (pool permit amended only) the night visit should be done annually. If any changes are made to the lighting, then a new night visit should be completed. During any inspection, the lights should be turned on to determine the lights are in working condition.

Contact your Environmental Health Regional Specialist if you have any further questions.

REFERENCES

Rules Governing Public Swimming Pools, 15A NCAC 18A .2500
Session Law 2017-209

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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POOL NIGHT LIGHTING DOCUMENTATION FORM

Date: _____ Time: _____ ID #: _____

Name of Pool: _____

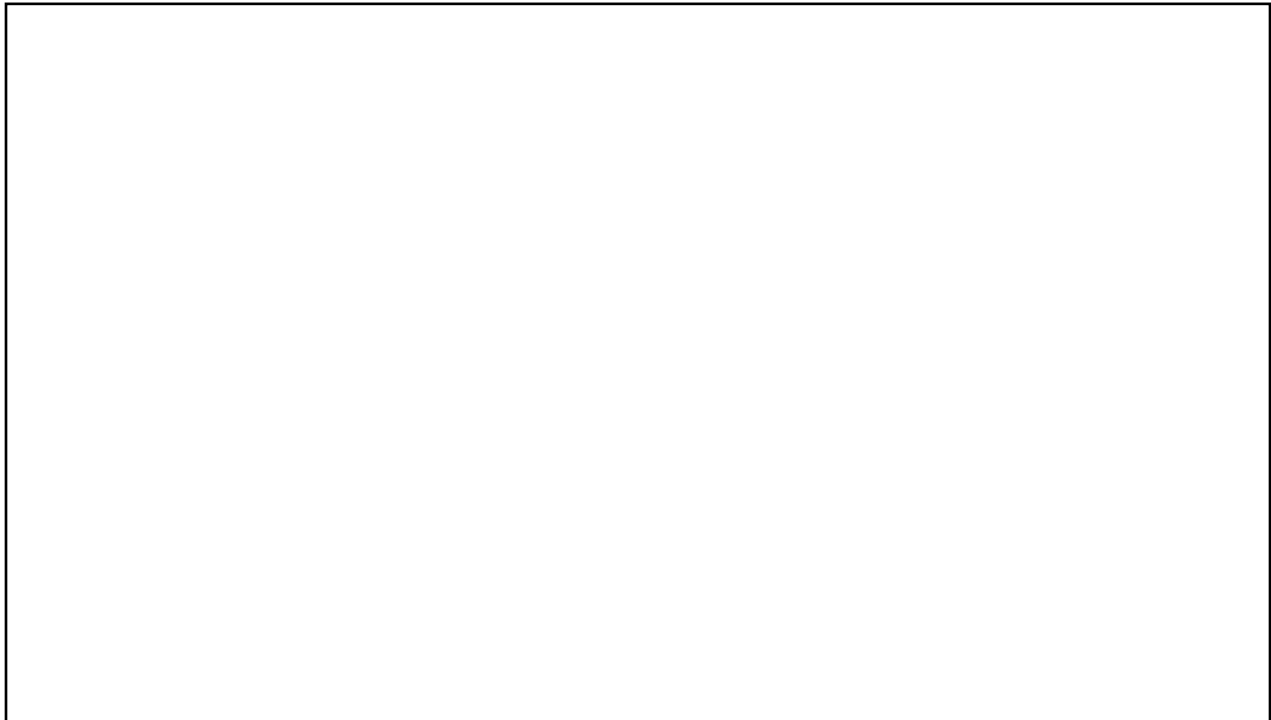
Address: _____

Pool Contact: _____

Contact Phone: _____

A nighttime visit to this location has been made to determine compliance with the provisions of Session Law 2017-209, **SECTION 8. (c)** Implementation. – The Commission shall require pool illumination sufficient to illuminate the main drains of a pool. The Commission shall require pool illumination sufficient to illuminate the deck area of a pool so that it is visible at all times the pool is in use but shall not require specific foot candles of illumination for the deck area.

Indicate location of pool, pool deck, main drains, and all overhead and underwater lights.



☐ Lighting is sufficient for dusk to dawn use.

☐ Lighting is insufficient for dusk to dawn use, pool area to close at dusk.

Lighting inspection completed by: _____

Pool operator agrees to maintain all lighting indicated on this form while pool is open for use after dusk.

Pool operator or representative: _____

Guidance for Local Pool Inspection Programs – Changes to Pool Lighting Requirements

On October 4, 2017, Session Law 2017-209 (House Bill 56) became law. Section 8 of this law requires the Commission for Public Health to amend the Pool Lighting and Ventilation Rule to “require pool illumination sufficient to illuminate the main drains of a pool” and “require pool illumination sufficient to illuminate the deck area of a pool so that it is visible at all times the pool is in use but shall not require specific foot candles of illumination for the deck area.” The provisions set forth in this law are to be implemented by local inspectors until the effective date of the revised permanent rule that the Commission for Public Health is required to adopt.

What this means.

Public swimming pools that are open for swimming at night are required to provide sufficient illumination so that the main drains and the required deck area is illuminated. The foot candle measurements of illumination can no longer be used to determine illumination levels.

What will local inspectors need to do.

For pools that indicate they will be open for swimming at night, local inspectors will need to visit the pool at night to determine if the main drains and required deck area are both illuminated.

What else needs to be illuminated?

During the night visit of pools that indicated they will be open for swimming at night, the local inspectors will also need to verify that sufficient illumination is provided in accordance with Paragraphs (b) and (c) of Rule .2524 which states: “Lighting fixtures shall be of such number and design as to illuminate all parts of the pool, the water, the depth markers, signs, entrances, restrooms, safety equipment and the required deck area and walkways.” And “The illumination shall be sufficient so that the floor of the pool can be seen at all times the pool is in use.”

Pools providing sufficient illumination to illuminate the main drains and the required deck area AND providing sufficient illumination in accordance with .2524 (b) and (c) shall have their operation permits conditioned to indicate that night swimming is ALLOWED. Pools that will not be open at night or that do not provide sufficient illumination to illuminate the main drains and required pool deck area OR that do not provide sufficient illumination in accordance with Rule .2524 (b) and (c) shall have their operation permits conditioned to indicate that night swimming is NOT ALLOWED.

All public swimming pool operation permits should be conditioned to indicate whether night swimming is allowed or not allowed.